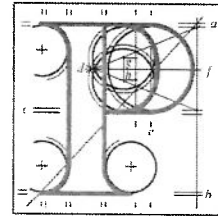


Our Case Number: ABP-320164-24

Your Reference: SID-OBS-002323



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Abbey Park & District Residents Association Baldoyle
c/o John Oliver McCann
Secretary
33 Stapolin Lawns
Baldoyle
Dublin 13
D13 R2X0

Date: 17 October 2024

Re: DART + Coastal North Railway Order 2024 - Northern Line between Dublin City Centre and Drogheda including the Howth Branch
Dublin City Centre and Drogheda, located in counties Dublin, Meath and Louth

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Bord Pleanála has received your recent letter in relation to the above mentioned case. The contents of your letter have been noted. Please accept this letter as a receipt for the fee of €50 that you have paid.

More detailed information in relation to strategic infrastructure development can be viewed on the Board's website: www.pleanala.ie.

If you have any queries in relation to the matter please contact the undersigned officer of the Board at laps@pleanala.ie

Please quote the above mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

Yours faithfully,


Aisling Reilly

Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737131

RA03

Teil	Tel	(01) 858 8100
Glaó Áitiúil	LoCall	1800 275 175
Facs	Fax	(01) 872 2684
Láithreán Gréasáin	Website	www.pleanala.ie
Ríomhphost	Email	bord@pleanala.ie

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde	64 Marlborough Street
Baile Átha Cliath 1	Dublin 1
D01 V902	D01 V902

Abbey Park &
District
Residents
Association- BALDOYLE

Incorporating:
Abbey Park
Grange Park
Stapolin Lawns
Marian Park
Grange Road

To: The Secretary,
An Bord Pleanala,
Association Baldoyle 64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1,
Co. Dublin ,

From: John McCann Secretary
Abbey Park & District Residents
33 Stapolin Lawns
Baldoyle
Dublin 13

10th October 2024

Observation:
Re Planning application to change the Howth branch line to a shuttle service.

An Bord Pleanala Ref: ABP-320164-24

AN BOARD PLEANALA

We wish to lodge our concern re the proposed Dart + Coastal North plan.

We have no issue with the idea of extending the service north along the coast and agree that it is a welcome and environmental acceptable proposal.

Our objection is the impact it will have on the DART users along the Howth branch line if it is implemented as proposed. The plan is to turn the service into a shuttle one necessitating the change of trains at Howth Junctions.

As we see it the main issues that we object to and are of concern us are as follows.

1: As well as the inconvenience of having to change DARTs at Howth Junction it would appear that Irish Rail is ignoring the 20K or so residents along this branch line so as to facilitate the newer users along the northern line. We believe that during busy times it will be near impossible to get on trains at Howth junction due to congestion. Even at the moment this is quite evident if one tries to board a train at Clongriffin station.

2: The proposal to increase the service on the Howth branch line would only exasperate the existing delays at the level crossings and to say that the road space available is sufficient to cater for the expected tail backs is an insult as observation would show.. The resulting delays will impact, not just those driving cars, but those persons going to work and school who need to go through the level crossings. The delays at the level crossings would cause untold problems for the emergency services.

3: We are aware that there are plans to redesign the Howth Junction station to facilitate the interchange of the shuttle from Howth but as per the plans we have seen it would still require one to use the lifts or stairs to transfer between DARTs. I am sure that wheelchair users, the elderly, persons with buggies or heavy baggage will not be happy with considering the issues that Irish rail have with **OUT OF SERVICE** lifts at the moment. It should be noted that Howth Junction station is particularly awkward to negotiate because of bad signage, lift and stairs issues.

3: A large number of residents have expressed concerns with anti social activities at Howth Junction at present and at the public consultations no Irish Rail personal were able to annul these concerns.

Yours sincerely

Mr John Oliver McCann
Secretary
Abbey Park and District Residents Association Baldoyle
33 Stapolin Lawns, Baldoyle, County Dublin. D13 R2X0